

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.

Serial No. 09/285,899

Filed: April 9, 1999

For: ELECTRO-OPTICAL DEVICE

HAVING LEVELING FILM

) Group Art Unit: 2871

) Examiner: Minh Toan T. Ton

) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

) I hereby certify that this correspondence is
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REPLY BRIEF

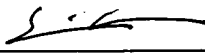
Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the *Examiner's Answer*, at page 7, section (B2), the Examiner newly argues that "TFTs are merely used as driving switching-elements that individually drive pixel electrodes in any liquid crystal display device including twisted nematic LCD device, ferroelectric LCD device" (emphasis added). In other words, the Examiner has made a general statement that TFTs may be used in any liquid crystal display device including ferroelectric LCD devices. The Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses the assertions in the *Examiner's Answer*. The Examiner has not shown why Takeshita's (JP 61-141174) polyimide resin 106 for a solid state image pickup device should be incorporated into the Inaba device (US 5,227,900), which is a method of driving a ferroelectric liquid crystal element.

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully asserted that the pending claims of the present application are unobvious in view of the prior art of record. Reversal of the outstanding rejections of record and allowance of the claims of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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